AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

In the Specification

On page 20, line 5, please replace the original paragraph with the following amended paragraph:

--Eleven amino acid residues in the plant PEBP sequences have so far been identified as essential for a functional protein by crystallography (Banfield and Brady, 2000) or by mutation (Bradley et al., 1997; Ohshima et al., 1997; Pnueli et al., 1998). At these residues, LpTFL1 differs from the consensus at only one position (110) which is also the position with the highest degree of amino acid variation between species. It is postulated that the Serine residue at position 110 may confer the superior repressor activity of flowering demonstrated herein. Therefore, the polypeptides expressed from the polynucleotide fragments of the present invention may include the sequence of YESP (K/R) (SEQ ID NOS: 30 and 31) located between about residues 100 and 120, from the N-terminus.--

Please amend the Specification at page 27, lines 1-5 as follows:

~~Figure 10 illustrates the number of inflorescences produced by the non-transformed (CON) and the transgenic UBI::LpTFL9 ryegrass lines, compared with the relative levels of LpTFLI mRNA (black bars, second Y-axis). All LpTFLI mRNA levels are relative to the level of LpACTIN, and the highest detected value was set to 100 (line 36). Horizontal bars below the graph indicates, which of the lines were tested positive for stable integration of LpTFL9 into the genome.~~

Please amend the Specification at page 44, lines 3-11 as follows:

The level of *LpTFLI* expression was tightly linked to the control of the vegetative to the reproductive phase. However, there was no linear correlation between the level of transgene expression and the flowering time (heading date) as previously observed in *Arabidopsis* (Jensen et. al., 2001), and the floral repression was more seen as reduction in inflorescence production as

a delay in heading date. We could detect *LpTFL1* transgene mRNA in 16 of the 22 PCR positive lines ~~(Fig. 10)~~, and nine of these lines (56%) remained non-flowering. Expression of *LpTFL1* at high levels comparable to housekeeping genes such as *GAPDH*, in this case prevented heading in five out of six lines ~~(Fig. 10, line 31-36)~~. No meristern proliferation or stem elongation was observed in the non-heading lines, which indicates that the plants were arrested in the vegetative phase.

Please delete Figure 10.